THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) No, Sir. The system was got installed after following proper purchase procedure at a cost of Rs. 3.62 lakhs.

(b) No, Sir. The system is working very satisfactorily and its performance has been found better in comparison to the MTNL system.

(c) Under the system 100 internal lines, including 10 EPBX outlets, have been provided to various Sections/Divisions.

Computer Cencer in Central Road Research Institute

4840. SHRI MISA R. GANESAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of computers have been purchased by the Central Road Research Institute of CSIR;

(b) whether it is a fact that every division/section is having computers; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the outsiders are getting training unauthorisedly on the computers with the connivance of officers of Central Road Research Institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. As part of modernization process in the CSIR laboratories, a computer network has been established in the CRRI also.

(b) Almost all the divisions|sections have been provided with personal computers.

(c) No, Sir. However, with a view to strengthening interaction with academic institutions through co-guidance of the thesis of the post graduate students of different universities| institutes, some students doing Master of Computer Application from the Thapar Institute of Technology Patiala, Regional Engineering College, Warangal and University of Roorkee, are being invited to undertake projects of software development which would give useful input to the Institute's R&D work and also provide opportunity to these students to work on practical scientific and engineering problems. Secondly a part of CSIR policy, children of CSIR Employees are encouraged to learn computer during summer vacation for which they are paid a stipend.

Contract for Renovation of Clock Rooms by CRRI

4841. SHRI MISA R. GANESAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a contract had been given for more than Rs. 5|- lakh from the excess funds of 1991-92 for further renovation of Clock-Rooms etc. by Central Road Research Institute of CSIR; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the renovation of Clock-Rooms etc. had been done a couple of years back?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. A contract for Rs. 5,10,960.14 has been awarded for undertaking absolutely necessary repairs in 11 of the 60 toilets of the

Institute, many of which are about 40 years old.

(b) Replacement of some damaged sanitary installations only was undertaken in the year 1985-86 at a cost of about Rs. 15,000/- with some routine maintenance work done from time to time.

Unearthing of Micro-Organism by NCL for producing quality Paper

4842. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that scientists of the National Chemical Laboratory (NCL) have unearthed from th edesert stands of Rajasthan a Mico-organism that secrets an enzyme that could help produce high quality paper; and

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that NCL has launched a joint programme with Iowa State University in the United States and leading U. S. manufacturer for commercialisation of the enzyme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune has developed a process for the preparation of low molecular weight xylanase from actinomycete strain chainia, obtained from the desert sands of Haldighat in Rajasthan.

(b) Yes, Sir. However, since the enzyme is expensive, the results are not very encouraging from techno-commercial angle.

The laboratory has alternatively developed another process for cellulase free xylanase which is techno-commercially feasible.

Consultancy Development Centre

4843. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN:

SHRI K. R. JAYADEVAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are funning a Consultancy Development Centre under DSIR as an independent private Unit; and

(b) what has been the funds spent by this Unit so far indicating the returns, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): The Consultancy Development Centre (CDC) is a Society registered in 1986 under the Society's Act with the main objective to promote the growth and strengthen Consultancy in the country;

(b) Since its inception in 1986, it has been provided a total of about Rs. 2 Crores covering Capital, recurring and programme support. The Annual allocation for the revenue expenditure of CDC for last 3 years is Rs 11.22 lakhs during 1989-90; Rs. 13.00 lakhs during 1990-91; Rs. 15.00 lakhs during 1991-92.

The returns on the training programmes organised by the Centre were recently analysed and found to be very satisfactory; Internal Rate of Return being over 25 per cent.

Research Laboratories Functioning under G. S. I. R.

4844. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of research laboratories functioning under Council of